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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/066,519
	Filing Date	January 31, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Walters et al.
	Art Unit	3732
	Examiner Name	Anu Ramana
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	5490-000269

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>Check for \$310; Form 1449; 18 U.S. Patents; and 2 U.S. Patent Application Publications.</b>		
<table border="1"><tr><td>Remarks</td><td>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.</td></tr></table>			Remarks	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.
Remarks	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.			

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Richard W. Warner	Reg. No.	38,043
Signature					
Date	January 21, 2005				

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Richard W. Warner	Express Mail Label No.	EV 570 163 106 US (1/21/2005)
Signature		Date	January 21, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

EV 570 163 106 US

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**PTO**  
**FEE TRANSMITTAL**  
**for FY 2005**  
Effective 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.  
**Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**  
**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)** 310

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/066,519
Filing Date	January 31, 2002
First Named Inventor	Walters et al.
Examiner Name	Anu Ramana
Art Unit	3732
Attorney Docket No.	5490-000269

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money ☐ Other ☐ None  
Order

☐ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number: 08-0750

Deposit Account Name: Harness, Dickey & Pierce, PLC

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)  
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments  
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17  
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

**FEE CALCULATION**

**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1001	790	2001	395	Utility filing fee	
1002	350	2002	175	Design filing fee	
1003	550	2003	275	Plant filing fee	
1004	790	2004	395	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
<b>SUBTOTAL (1)</b>					<b>(\$)</b> 0

**2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE**

Total Claims:  -20 \*\* =  0 X  =  0

Independent Claims:  -3 \*\* =  0 X  =  0

Multiple Dependent:  X  =  0

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1202	50	2202	25	Claims in excess of 20	
1201	200	2201	100	Independent claims in excess of 3	
1203	360	2203	180	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
1204	200	2204	100	** Reissue independent claims over original patent	
1205	50	2205	25	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	
<b>SUBTOTAL (2)</b>					<b>(\$)</b> 0


\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

**FEE CALCULATION (continued)**

**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	120	2251	60	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	450	2252	225	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	1020	2253	510	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1590	2254	795	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2160	2255	1080	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	500	2401	250	Notice of Appeal	
1402	500	2402	250	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	1000	2403	500	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	500	2452	250	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1500	2453	750	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1400	2501	700	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	800	2502	400	Design issue fee	
1503	1100	2503	550	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	180
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	790	2809	395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	790	2810	395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	790	2801	395	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify) <u>Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Provisional Double Patenting Rejection Over a Pending "Reference" Application</u>					130
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
<b>SUBTOTAL (3)</b>					<b>(\$)</b> 310

**SUBMITTED BY**

Name (Print/Type)	Richard W. Warner	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,043	Telephone	248 - 641-1600
Signature				Date	January 21, 2005

**Complete (if applicable)**



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/066,519  
Filing Date: January 31, 2002  
Applicant: Walters et al.  
Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Anu Ramana  
Title: Apparatus and Method for Manipulating a Flexible Strand  
and Soft Tissue Replacement During Surgery  
Attorney Docket: 5490-000269

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Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

**I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

**II. COPIES**

A. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cross-referenced pending U.S. application listed below in Section IV, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. \_\_\_\_ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

01/28/2005 AMNDIAF1 00000005 10066519  
01 FC:1806 180.00 00

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C.\_\_\_\_ Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

D.\_\_\_\_ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. If the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. ☒ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B.\_\_\_\_ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

- 1.\_\_\_\_ See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application.
- 2.\_\_\_\_ English translations are provided.
- 3.\_\_\_\_ Other:

C. \_\_\_\_ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. ☒ The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Art Unit</u>
10/686,236	10/15/2003	3738

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check only one box)

1.        within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.
2.        within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.
3.        before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
4.        before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. X 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. X No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
2.        See the certification below. No fee is required.

C.        37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1.        See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A.        each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F. R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or

B.        no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C.        Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

       each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A.   X   A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.

B.        Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

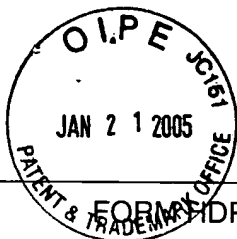
Respectfully submitted;

Dated: July 21, 2005

By: Richard W. Warner  
Richard W. Warner  
Reg. No. 38,043

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

RWW/MLT/mm



FORM PDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
 (Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
5490-000269	10/066,519
APPLICANT	
Walters et al.	
FILING DATE	GROUP
January 31, 2002	3732

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		2002/0019635 A1	02/2002	Wenstrom, Jr. et al.		
2.		2003/0097179 A1	05/2003	Carter et al.		
3.		4,985,032	01/1991	Goble		
4.		5,004,474	04/1991	Fronk et al.		
5.		5,234,434	08/1993	Goble et al.		
6.		5,266,075	11/1993	Clark et al.		
7.		5,350,380	09/1994	Goble et al.		
8.		5,354,300	10/1994	Goble et al.		
9.		5,393,302	02/1995	Clark et al.		
10.		5,674,224	10/1997	Howell et al.		
11.		5,849,013	12/1998	Whittaker et al.		
12.		5,891,150	04/1999	Chan		
13.		6,039,739	03/2000	Simon		
14.		6,066,173	05/2000	McKernan et al.		
15.		6,113,604	09/2000	Whittaker et al.		
16.		6,325,804 B1	12/2001	Wenstrom, Jr. et al.		
17.		6,379,384 B1	04/2002	McKernan et al.		
18.		6,497,726 B1	12/2002	Carter et al.		
19.		6,562,071 B2	05/2003	Järvinen		
20.		Des. 357,534	04/1995	Hayes		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.